DOCKET NO.: MSFT-4160/37779.03

Application No.: 09/970,409

Office Action Dated: December 3, 2004

REMARKS

Claims 21-35 remain in the application. Claims 23-25 and 32 stand rejected. Claims 26-31, 33, and 34 have been indicated by the Examiner as allowable.

Requirement For Information -37 USC §1.105

Applicant and Assignee of this application are required under 37 CFR 1.105 to provide the Examiner with information that the Examiner believes is reasonably necessary to the examination of this application. In particular, the Assignee (Microsoft®) and inventors and Applicant's Representative(s) are required to provide the Patent Office with information on the first use and/or for sale of Microsoft product using the feature "IntelliSense" and relevant documentation of operations and use with an interpreted or compiled environment. The information is required to identify the date of first use and first sale of Microsoft products with "IntelliSense" and documentation on the operations and use with an interpreted or compiled environment.

To the best of Applicants knowledge, the information that the examiner has requested is as follows:

Office 4.3 was available June 3, 1994. The Office 4.3 suite contained Excel 5.0 and VBA 5.0, Word 6.0. Documentation describing the features of that product accompany this response (see reference 1 identified on the attached PTO 1449 form).

VBA 5.0 was announced on June 4, 1996 in Chicago at PC Expo. It shipped in January 1997 in Microsoft Office (Word and Excel). There was a beta release of VBA 5.0 in about March 1996.

VBA 5.0 was available for third parties to license on June 4, 1996. Prior to that date, VBA shipped in Microsoft Office 4.3, which began shipping June 3, 1994 as noted above.

VBA 5.0 was included in Microsoft Project sometime after the release of Office 97.

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Visual Basic 5.0 was announced February 3, 1997. See e.g., http://www.microsoft.com/presspass/press/1997/Feb97/VB5PROpr.asp (see reference 2 identified on the attached PTO 1449 form). That version of Visual Basic contained the following "Intellisense" features:

List Properties/Methods: presents a drop-down list of properties available for that control; and

Auto Quick Info: displays the syntax for statements and functions.

Applicant believes that the products were not marketed with the name "Intellisense" at that time of release of Visual Basic 5.0.

Visual Basic 6.0 was announced June 15th, 1998. See e.g., http://www.microsoft.com/presspass/press/1998/Jun98/VB6ancpr.asp (see reference 3 identified on the attached PTO 1449 form). That version of Visual Basic contained the following "Intellisense" features:

Auto Quick Info: see Visual Basic 5.0 above; and Auto List Members: When a user enters the name of a control in his or her program code, the Auto List Members feature presents a drop-down list of properties available for that control.

These two features can be found in the online Visual Basic 6.0 documentation found here (see reference 4 identified on the attached PTO 1449 form):

http://msdn.microsoft.com/library/default.asp?url=/library/en-us/vbcon98/html/vbconusingcodeeditor.asp

The Visual Basic 6.0 documentation does not refer to these features as Intellisense.

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CONCLUSION

Applicants have provided the Examiner with the requested information regarding

Intellisense and related products. A Notice of Allowance for all pending claims is respectfully solicited.

Date: May 3, 2005

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